BATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1898.

If our friends who favor us with manuscripts for publication wish to have rejected articles returned. They must in all cases send stamp for that purpose

#### A Silly Sumptuary Bill.

The bill prepared by the counsel of the apecial committee of the Senate appointed last year to investigate the so-called Coal Trust or Reading combine is an extraordipary production. The essential parts of it

1. No person not having a coal carrier's license shall be allowed to transport anthracite coal intended for consumption in this State on any railroad, canal, or navi-

gable waters of this State. 2. No person not having a coal dealer's license shall be allowed to carry on the business of selling anthracite coal intended for consumption in this State.

3. These licenses shall be issued by the State Railroad Commission, which is to prescribe the maximum prices for the transportation and sale of anthracite coal.

Thus the Railroad Commission is intrusted with the duty of fixing the price of a product of the State of Pennsylvania, a product mined, and for the greater part transported and handled by corporations over which the Railroad Commission has no control whatever. The prices are "to afford only a reasonable compensation for such coal before it is mined, and for the services and capital necessarily employed and expenses necessarily incurred in its production, transportation, handling, storage, and sale, and so as not to confer on any licensee an unreasonable advantage over any other licensee, in pursuance of this act."

Thus the Railroad Commission fixes the prices, fixes the profits, and would really, if the bill became a law and was not thrown out by the courts, fix the rate of wages of a number of foreign corporations, and of a few railroad corporations, and all the coal dealers subject to the laws of the State of New York. Prices may be modified by the Commission every three months. The reasonable compensation of the licensed coal carrier and the licensed coal dealer may thus be reduced or increased.

We take it that flour and meat and clothes are as necessary as anthracite. They all have been or may be the subject of a trust If the State sets out to regulate the prices of necessaries, where will it stop? Where could it stop if this bill should be passed?

The bill was rushed at once to the third reading in the Senate. By the time Senators have read it they will see what a monstrous thing it is, a reversion to some of the most vicious and foolish legislation of the middle ages. We do not blame Mr DANIEL E. GRIFFIN of Watertown, counsel of the Senate committee, and reputed au ther of the bill, for its enormity. Doubt less he drew up the kind of bill the committee wanted; and the committee seems to have derived its ideas from a few ranting, incendiary newspapers.

## Is There a Secret Treaty of Partition The attitude of Germany is reported from

Berlin. That Government is passive, but it the United States should annex Hawaii, Germany "may demand slight compensation elsewhere." The attitude of England is disclosed by

the questions and answers in the House of Commons on Thursday: No British war ships to go to Honolulu; no protest to the United States Government; no objection, as at present advised, to American control of the Sandwich Islands.

These two announcements fit together very well; and they fit in, likewise, with the belief entertained by persons well informed as to the unwritten treaties of Pacific Ocean diplomacy, that the understanding on which London and Berlin cooperated throughout the Samoan controversy rested on this basis: England to have the Tonga or Friendly Islands; Germany in the end to have Samoa; and the which natural right and manifest desting had already assigned to us without regard to anything that England or Germany might say or do.

This nation had interests in the Tonga group, and it has very definite, important, and widely understood interests in Samoa Germany assisted Great Britain in her raid on Tonga. England gave to Germany the whole weight of her influence throughout the Samoan difficulties. If public sentiment had not been aroused in this country to an extraordinary degree by the events in and around Apia Bay, the German flag opinion or public interests. would long ago have covered Samoa, with the consent and approval of England.

Does the "slight compensation else where" to be demanded by Germany in case the United States Government an nexes Hawaii at the request of the Hawaiian provisional Government, refer to Samoa? Does the present affable mood of Great

Britain depend upon American acquiescence in the German-English agreement concern ing the ultimate destination of Samos and the Tongas? The game played by the great Powers for

the possession of the only valuable islands in the Pacific is drawing near its end. Let the considerations here outlined be kept in mind by Congress and the country at a time when there may be a temptation to abandon needlessly our rights in Samoa as. "compensation" for rights elsewhere sequired by natural process, and for which we owe England and Germany neither

#### thanks nor cash. The Value of Ocean Stations.

In considering the advantages of Hawai be remembered. Although the United States Government now has the right to use Pearl River harbor, yet the concession is not perpetual. It runs no longer than the treaty of which it forms a part. and a failure to renew that treaty, through the unwillingness of either party, or through changed circumstances, would put an end to its privilege.

Should any other nation gain control in Hawaii, the United States might as well bid good-by forthwith to its existing grant, and no substitute could be found in the North Pacific. Island after island, group after group, in Polynesia has passed into the possession of England, France, or Germany without objection from the United States, and with no call for "compensation elsewhere," such as Germany is said to be about to ask. The loss of Hawaii would therefore mean the shutting out of our commerce from any coaling privileges exclusively its own throughout the broad Pacific north of the equator. We should still have a foothold in the South Seas, far away, however, from the path of commerce between the United States and Asia.

It may be said that under a joint pro-tectorate the absolute cession of Pearl River harbor could be provided for. But

which would come with the archipelago ours. Pearl River harbor is within ten miles of Honolulu, on the same island, Oahu; so that a power holding Honolulu would seriously threaten it. England has a navy vastly stronger than ours, but with Hawaii ours the entrance to Honolulu could made secure and impregnable.

Another point to keep in mind is that the entrance of Pearl River harbor is obstructed by a coral reef which permits only vessels of light and medium draught to cross it. To make the anchorage available for our heavy war ships this reef will have to be blasted, and \$500,000 or more may be required for this purpose and for the erection of wharves and buildings. But in annexing Hawaii the harbor of Honolulu becomes ready for occupancy without resort to Pearl

River harbor. The substitution of steam for wind as the motive power of vessels has had a great influence on the value of island possessions for the great maritime nations. So long as sails were the only appliances used for ships, strict adherence to the rule of seeking and accepting no foothold apart from the mainland of America, with its keys and coast islands, was possible for our country. But when steam machinery took the place of sails the problem of coaling changed this whole question At first, even under the reign of steam, the auxillary use of sails prevented the new necessities from becoming less marked. But when yards and masts disappeared, as on our latest and most powerful ships, except the short military masts used for observation and for placing machine guns in the tops, the problem of foreign coaling stations became imperative. The Monterey could not now reach Honolulu with the coal in her bunkers, so that she would have to use such further supply as might be taken on her decks under favoring circumstances or carried by a convoy. Her case is exceptional, as that of a vessel built for coast service: but even our battle ships in the Pacific would need a coaling station like Hawaii. In time of war the necessity becomes greater from the liability of a neutral to be treated as an enemy in extending coaling privileges to a belligerent ship.

Great Britain has an abundance of coaling stations on the further side of the Pacific. At Singapore, at Hong Kong, at Sydney, and at Wellington her ships can supply themselves. She has a regular coaling station now at the Fijis, and she possesses other islands in the Pacific which can be utilized for the purpose if required. With Hawaii in our possession it would be easy to fit up a dry dock and repair station that would supply all the wants of our navy and our ommercial marine in the Pacific.

#### Congress and the Railroads.

It is now certain that Congress does not intend to amend the Inter-State Commerce act so as to legalize pooling between railroads, although railroad managers and their attorneys have recommended it with singular unanimity as a measure equally advantageous to the railroads and to the public. Whether it is justly entitled to that recommendation may fairly be doubted. Even so judicial a person as Senator Cullom, Chairman of the Inter-State Commerce Committee, cast the deciding vote of his committee against it.

Be this as it may, it has all along been evident to well-informed observers that the members of Congress from the agricultural States are bitterly opposed to pooling, on the broad ground that its avowed purpose is to restrict competition, which is against public policy, and to make rates remunerative, if not to advance them. It has also been evident for some time that this opposition would defeat the measure, no matter what might be said in its favor; and now that this result has been reached, it is perhaps worth while to call attention to the fact that pooling was common before the Inter-State Commerce act was passed, and signally failed to arrest the downward tendency of rates, or to make them uniform or to protect the public against unheralded changes and unjust discriminations. In

other words, the pool agreements, however stringent in their terms, were habitually United States to be satisfied with Hawaii, violated by the parties making them; and advantage from them. Of course it was the purpose of the proposed amendment to legalize them, to make them public, and to give the Inter-State Commerce Commission complete authority over them; but with all the safeguards that might be devised, it is evident that the time has not come for ven turing on such radical legislation, and that the managers of our railroads must therefore look for other means to protect their revenues without suspending competition or otherwise running counter to public

> What these means may be is a matter of grave public concern. Obviously the primary responsibility for correct manage ment must rest with the owners of railroad property hereafter as heretofore. Congress clearly does not intend to relieve them of that responsibility, but merely to lay down as law certain principles for the protection of the public from extortion and unjust discrimination. All the rest is left with the owners and their agents, and hence it is a matter of prime importance that those agents should be chosen with good judgment and sound discrimination. The Pres idents and directors of railroad corporations are responsible for the details of management, and should be men of sense and probity. All subordinates, especially those connected with the traffic depart ments, should be chosen with sole reference to their experience and honesty; and, as we have frequently pointed out, the power of making and changing rates should be exercised exclusively by the directors. The rate cutters, the soliciting and contracting agents, whether travelling or stationary, should be discharged or shorn of their power either to reduce or to advance rates and thus to injure the railroads or the public; and all contracts between railroad corporations, or between corporations and the public, should be made public. Secrecy should be absolutely forbidden by law upon the general principle that whatever needs to be concealed in business of a quasi public nature is likely to work injury to some individual, if not to the public itself, and upon that other general principle that shippers can be safely left to protect

> are given to their competitors. Mr. CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS, for many years Chairman of the Massachusetts Board of Railroad Commissioners, early laid down the principle that the chief utility of laws establishing such boards is to secure publicity as to the details of railroad management, and especially in connection with the exercise of the rate-making power; and all subsequent experience has shown that he was clearly right in his caunciation of this principle.

themselves under the laws if they are per-

mitted to know what rates and facilities

Having applied it rigorously in perfecting the Inter-State Commerce act, the railroads should be left free, under welldefined general rules, to consolidate and confederate with each other into territorial at would not give the secure possession systems, as now seems to be the tendency. I provide for the care of officers, super-a the Mexican Government had strengthened its

They should, above all, be relieved from the unjust and unregulated competition of foreign railroads, which neither pay taxes to our States and municipalities nor yield obedience to our laws. This is but common justice, and no one who has read President HARRISON'S admirable message of yesterday can doubt that the Inter-State Com merce act should be amended accordingly. So long as this relief is denied to the American trunk lines, they are justified in evading the Inter-State Commerce act wherever and whenever they can; and unless human nature undergoes a sudden and radical change, they may be depended upon to do it effectually.

### Real Life and Fiction.

At the second performance of the Theatre of Arts and Letters, the new association for the purification and elevation of the drama, the opening play had for its theme a fictitious incident that bore a close re semblance to an actual occurrence in Brook-

lyn last Wednesday evening. The scene of the play was a church, in which a showy wedding was going on. Everything proceeded smoothly until the simulated clergyman read the clause of the marriage service calling on any one present to speak out if he had just cause to show why the wedlock would not be lawful. Thereupon a woman rushed up the aisle and demanded that the ceremony should stop. on the ground that she was the victim of the groom. As palpable evidence of the truth of her assertion she brought in a little boy; but only when the fellow had knocked her down the chancel steps with a ringing blow, after she had thrust her hand forward to the clergyman to show her wedding ring, did the expectant bride refuse to become the wife of the bigamist.

It was not a pretty climax to present to a decent audience as a means of elevating the drama; but evidently the playwright

wanted to figure as a sensational realist. If the cultivated people at the Theatre of Arts and Letters had desired to see an exhibition of that sort of brutality and depravity, they might have witnessed it in real life if they had gone over to Brooklyn on Wednesday evening. The marriage of LIZA KRANZ to THEBALD SCHMITT was about to take place, the wedding procession having been already formed, when ELISE GOLDZUNG appeared on the scene. Rushing up to SCHMITT, she denounced him as a villain, declaring that he was already married to herself and was the father of her three children. Thereupon, according to the allegations, SCHMITT threw a flat from at ELISE, choked her, and kicked her down stairs. As in the play, the expectant bride fainted away, and the wedding was rost-

The author of the play, therefore, might make his drama more strictly in accordance with real life, and more sensational, by re casting it so as to substitute for the mere knocking down of a woman the animated features of the flat-iron throwing, the choking, and the kicking down stairs. If brutal realism is requisite for the elevation of the drama, the more real it is in its brutality the more efficacious must it be.

#### Not a Praiseworthy Affair.

Though the long hoped for ambition has just awakened in New York to establish a creditable standard of architectural excellence in the public buildings, her parks are distinguished for beauty among those of all the world. They delight the eye and impress the mind, to which the subtlety of their charm is a mystery totally beyond explanation. The present Landscape Architect of the Park Department, a gentleman as sound in his taste and judgment as he is experienced in study, represents, with Mr. OLMSTED, the planning and building up of the park system that so fortunately graces our city. This was his criticism upon the addition to the Museum building in Manhattan square which the trustees of the Natural History Society intend using their opportunity to erect:

"There is no attempt to make the architectural line of the lecture hall coincide with those of the existing building, with which it is whelly incongruous. In my judgment, the architectural proposition, as thus pre sented, is so awkward in design that the result, if exe-

The cause that led to the rejection of this plea for the protection of an indispensable and proudly approved policy in our public works, was even more extraordinary than the act itself. The actual structure raised against such a protest and under such circumstances will be a standing dis credit to the face of the city and to the management of its affairs. Public build ings are not to be erected in accordance with the vanity or prejudice of private parties who may have acquired in any way the force of official influence.

## A Police Question.

The Police Pension Fund is not in a flour ishing condition at present, and the propo sition is again made that the period of ser vice before retirement should be extended to twenty-five or thirty years. The law a present requires twenty years of service and it is the retirement of able-bodied officers in the prime of life and of activity, on pensions, which has depleted the resources of the fund, and made necessary an appeal to the Legislature for its relief. This prov ident fund has been in existence, unde various names, for more than thirty years It was originally made up from the proceeds of the sales of unclaimed property, from fines and rewards, and by voluntary contributions. Under the law passed in 1884. 'all money, pay, compensation or salary, or any part thereof, forfeited, deducted, or withheld from any member of the force for any cause," was to be paid to the fund. So, also, was twenty-five per cent. of sums paid for excise licenses, and all sums derived from the issue of permits for masked balls and parties, the carrying of firearms, and steam boiler inspections. These fines are a considerable item. They amounted to over \$100,000 in 1892. Three hundred thousand dollars additional was derived from the Excise Fund, but even these sources were wholly inadequate to the drafts made upon the fund by voluntarily retiring officers, to whom 80 per cent. of the payments were made, the remaining 20 per cent. being for widows and orphans of deceased officers.

According to the report recently submitted by Commissioner McClave, the Freasurer, the sum disbursed during the year was \$509,497, whereas the proceeds from the various sources of revenue, pro vided by the Legislature, amounted to \$453,766 only. There was thus a deficit of more than \$50,000, which was made up by the expedient of transferring "certain unexpended balances" appropriated to the use of various departments and raised by direct taxation. Such a proceeding, dictated in this instance by the exigency of the case, may be justified as a temporary expedient, but if converted into a precedent. the Police Pension Fund will be robbed of its provident and self-sustaining character and become a direct charge upon the taxnavers of the city, such as was never in-

tended by its founders and their successors. Of the moral obligation of the city to

annuated or physically disabled in its service, or for the widows and orphans of those killed in protecting the public peace. there would seem to be no dispute; but whether such obligation should be stretched to extend to able-bodied men, after twenty years of service, while no similar provision exists for school teachers, department clerks, or mechanics and public functionaries, is another question, which the trustee of the fund show no desire to press forward for solution. The demand for an extension of the period of service before retirement comes from police officials. That some legislation is necessary is evident, for while the new pensions voted during the year 1892 were \$82,000, those which lapsed or ceased amounted to only \$28,000, and thus

the shortage constantly increases. The balance on hand to the credit of the fund was \$19.924 at the beginning of the year. This will soon be exhausted, and before it reaches that point, a determination must be reached by the trustees to either limit the disbursement by an extension of the period of service, to increase the revenues by recourse to the proceeds of taxation, or by defaulting upon the claims of such of the pensioners as there is no money to pay.

Rotation in office is the rule, even in vacht clubs. The New York Yacht Club will doubt less prosper under its new officers, but it would be ingratitude if the press, in behalf of the public, did not extend its thanks to Commodore GERRY as he retires, for the hospitality that has known no stint or reservation.

In making champagne the grapes are squeezed six times, each pressure making wine of a different quality.—Washington Exeming News. In drinking champagne the cup may be emptied six times, and each drink will make

the impression of a distinct flavor. After six

drinks, there's no difference. "Of course we hold a secular view of this subject," says the Herald; but that is an inadequate "view to hold" of a subject which is religious. Hold a secular view, if there be such a view that can be held, of things that are secular, a moral view of those that are ethical, and a supreme spiritual view of those that are religious. Yet we would not give s nickel for a secular view of anything that can be brought within an intelligent view.

As for old PHARAOH, who drove the Jowe out of Egypt 1300 B. C., he was not aware that a Jew would be the Promier of Egypt 1893 A. D. The Jewish Riaz Pasha is now the Prime Min ister of Egypt's ruler, even as JOSEPH, the son of Jacon, was the Prime Minister of an other of Egypt's rulers. From the seat of his power. RIAZ beholds the pyramids which his ancestors helped to build for the mummies of the PHARAORS. The fellaheen of Egypt are under the Jewish Pasha, as the Jewish brick layers were once under Pharaon. We guess that RIAZ is yet more powerful than Joseph ever was: for Pharaon said to Joseph Only in the throne will I be greater than thou." while that poor creature ABBAS II. would not dare to say that he is as great anyhow as his Premier, backed up by the arro gant Lord CROMER and the militant Sirdar and Gen. WALKER and the British redcoats and the native troops and the Mediterranean fleet and the Earl of Roseners, with the cousen of Mr. GLADSTONE, aged 84. The Jewish RIAZ is a shrewd Premier of the Khedive and serviceable agent of England; he knows how to set things up so as to suit all parties in interest. So so. But beware, RIAZ, for ARABI may be somewhere.

Thus goes the world. We lay brick for the Egyptians one day, and make the Egyptians lay brick for us another day. Look out, re tyrants!

One of the most interesting geographic questions still to be solved in Africa is that of the water parting between the Niger and Tchad river systems on the north and the Congo River basin on the south. An explorer has few more important quests than to de termine the boundaries of the water system The water parting between th Congo and the Zambesi systems has been fairly well ascertained by the expeditions of CAPELLA and Ivens and Arnor, who have travelled to hundreds of miles along or near the almost imperceptible Height of Land between the two systems.

Within the past few months, Mizon, travelling south, has determined the water parting between the Niger and Congo basins at one point, and Dynowsky, travelling north, has as-Congo systems at one point. The facts ob tained by these explorers, together with the recent investigations on the M'Bomu of the north Congo basin, indicate that the domain of the Congo River extends a considerable dis tance further north than had been supposed.

Our enterprising friends of the Retai Grocers' Union are in trouble with those manufacturers of goods who give to wholesalers and jobbers certain discounts and relates which are denied to retailers, even if syndicated. They are determined to get fair play. and they ought to get it. The questions at issue are complicated, and it is hard for a per son not in the grocery line to form a judgmen upon them. The manufacturers stand ready to give their accounts in evidence of the ad vantage of their method of dealing, while the etailers declare that the best part of the profits which ought to go to them is eaten up by wholesalers and jobbers. The manufacturers say that their business is simplified and their risks are lessened by dealing only with wholesalers, while the retailers ask wh they cannot get goods at wholesale rates

when they buy by wholesale and pay cash. It seems to us that the three parties in con flict ought to take time to cool off and no waste any more of their strength. Why does ot some member of the Retail Grocers Union propose to adopt, in this case, the im proved modern method of settling dispute by holding a union conference of the disputants? We can hardly believe that the manufacturers or the wholesalers are unreasonable, and we feel certain that there are reasonable retailers; let them reason together. The result may possibly be satisfactory all around. The Retail Union has now resolved to send a delegate to the Convention of the State Board of Trade which will be held a few days hence That is a sensible resolution. When we come to think of it, we admit that it amounts to th same thing as our proposition.

When President DIAZ of Mexico entered upon his fourth term of office last month, there were signs of a renewal of disturbances on the Rio Grande: and about the opening of this year a revolutionary pronunciamento of the nost bombastic kind was issued under the signature of two hundred Generals, Colonels, and other military adventurers in Tamaulipas. It declared that DIAZ is a tyrant, a robber, cynic, an assassin, a capricious usurper, s traitor, a monster of cruelty, and altogether a man without a parallel: and, after giving notice that his adherents would be executed upon the triumph of the revolution, it summoned all patriotic Mexicans to take up arms and put an end to his career. It may be that a half of these ardent adventurers then put on their spangles, seized their rifles, mounted their mustangs, and began a campaign near those places along the Rio Grande where the chaparral is thick and whence they could easily cross over to the American side when an enemy came in sight. They plundered few ranches; they perpetrated a number of alrocities; they seized several Government functionaries: they got into petty fights at times, and they fied hither and thither from Mexican territory to American and back again whenever there was danger. But the revolutionists have been unable to get up a revolution; the oppressed people have refused to join them; the army has remained loyal. As soon as

forces on the western side of the Rio Grande and the American Government had done the tion collapsed, and its 200 commanders, or a many of them as took command of it, sought refuge in the chaparral. We have heard of them during the past two or three weeks, only when those of them who have had the bad lue to be caught were standing up to be shot. The American troops on this side have co operated with the Mexican troops on the other side in preventing depredations on the terri-

tory of their respective Governments. When the Garzaist revolutionists first broke out nearly two years ago. President Diaz complained that our Government permitted them to enter Texas when pursued: but he has now taken occasion to express his satisfaction that those of them who tried to find refuge there this time have either been driven out or captured. A lot of them, mostly Generals and Colonels, are prisoners in our hands.

## THE GREATER UNITED STATES.

The Place for Canada is in the Republic, From the Cleveland Leader

The Dominion of Canada is evidently on the road which will lead that country into the United States which will lead that country into the United states before many years. The sconer the Canadians make their country a part of the great republic and share this American feeling of perfect national independence and sufficiency the better it will be for all concerned.

From the Belleville Ontario The destiny of Canada is fixed by nature, and points neither to independence nor continued British connection, and it is safe to say that ten years more of Tory government in Canada will suffice to fill the can their iniquities, and the Canadian ship of state w down the rapids to be picked up by a Yankee skipper.

#### Absorbing Canada.

From the Albany Daily Press and Knickerbock Four-diths of the Canadian people are natives of this continent. Of the alien-born the most numerous are natives of the United Kingdom. This shows the presence in the population of Canada of a homogene-ons element exceeding proportionally that in our own population. If we inquire into racial origin we find more than a million French, less than a million Engisb, less than a million Irish, a little more than 500. 000 Scotch, less than 800 000 German and the re-Dutch, Indian, African, Danish, Icelandic, Italian, Russian, Scandinavian, Welsh, Swiss, Spanish, Portuguese and Jews, a chronicle that reads very like the ethnica story of the population of the United States. In absorbing Canada we would add to our own elements drawn from exactly the same fountains as those whence our own have come.

From the Chicago Herald.
But beneath the stiff upper crust of society there appears to be a strong popular undercurrent setting toward political union. The French-Canadians have no sentimental attachment to the British Crown. They would prefer association with the great republic if they could secure it without violence or pecuniary loss. According to Edward Parrar, over one-third of the French-Canadians have either emigrated to this country or spent much time here, and 50,000 of them come here every year. Their influence, strengthened by the fact that they improve their condition by the change, greatly affects those who remain behind, and disposes them favorably toward any change which seems likely to increase their prosperity. Then, toe, the Catholic laity are growing restive under the burdens laid upon them for the support of the Church, and the insuence of the clergy over them is becoming mpaired. Finally, the Irish Cathelics waste no lev upon Great Britain, and are strongly in favor of politi

cal union with this country.

On the whole, it looks as though the popular tendency was strongly in the direction of political union, and a abough nothing was lacking but a strong, courageous and skilful leader to carry the province for annexation by an everwhelming majority, provided it could be ac-

omplished peacefully. For the coming of such a leader we Americane can wait with patience. Political union would be vastly more advantageous to the people of Canada than it would be to us. We need be in no haste to take in the Dominion, with its obligations, general, provincia and municipal, aggregating \$270,000, on account of aid to railways and construction of canals. When the Canadians get thoroughly ripe for annexation, we will be able to arrange the business details with them to stances. That they will get ripe in due time is not to

## An Annexation Policy.

From the Chicago Nesco Record. It is announced with evidences of truthfulness that Mr. Cleveland will, as President, have what might be called an "annexation policy." Pirst will come the to annex .Canada; after that a plan to at nex the Hawattan Islands, and perhaps Cuba.

Annexation, the extension of American dominion it is a matter requiring thoughtful consideration. The annexation of Canada appears likely to be in time a logical result of conditions that exist and which ar United States Government to assume the Canadian debt and take charge of Canadian affairs. The Cana-dians are an orderly people and closely akin to the people of the United States. They differ less from an average American " than do many residents of Southwestern Territories. The annexation of Canada would not entail difficult social or governmental problems.

As things are now going Canada will annex herself.

The tendency of Canadian thought is strongly in that direction. Mr. Cleveland as President should simply The Hawaiian Islands may grow ripe for annexation

oon. But Cuba is a dependency of Spain, and what shall console that country for the loss of the magni From the Buffalo Commercial.

Goldwin Smith says it is only a question of a short time before Canada will be flying the American flag. and he knows what he is talking about.

From the Toronto Evening News. Annexation is not making any considerable growth

#### test now, but there is a widespread discontent, and that is about as dangerous as nitro-glycerine.

THE CRINOLINE. An Opinion that the Surface Railroads are at the Bottom of the Movement. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I read with great in-

erest in Tax Son of this morning the article taken from the London Times, entitled "Arise Against Crinoline," also your editorial comments thereon. There is more in this movement toward crinoline than Mrs. Stannard. the author of the London Times article, is aware of. The surface street ratiroads in New York city are to a great long sighted management it is. Cars propelled by cable will soon be in operation, and the fight between surface cars as against clevated will be "on." If crinoline should be adopted and wern in this city, the elevated roads would lose one-quarter of their patrons, the surface atreet cars would benefit correspondingly. No lady attired in the old-fashioned "hoop skirt " will climb the stairs to the elevated trains. They and their escorts will all take the surface cars. I happen to know that this movement toward crincilne is being aided b the management of the New York city surface lines, both with money and efforts. The Manhattan Company is just awaking to the danger. Mrs. Stannard should is just awaking to the danger. Mrs. Stannard about immediately cooperate with the latter company, from whom site can obtain material aid.

The movement toward critoline is so far advanced that no mere cry to "arise against" it is effective. It is a disorganized mob fighting a regular army. Hefore long the only occupants of the elevated trains will be the trained and the woman hater. Beauty, fashion, gallants, dades, and mashers will be found only in the surface cars. I write as a sympathizer with the effect, of Mrs. Stanuard.

Out Foot,

## Putting Causes with Fish Hooks.

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: Having seen the World's Fairs at Paris, Vienna, and Philadelphia, and because of the importance of the subject, in which the Governments of Europe will be particularly interested, I take the liberty of suggesting to you the reconsidera-tion, by the World's Columbian Commission, of the classification of ordunace, small arms, ammunition c. (Group 113). It seems to me incongruous, if not grotesque,

calculated to invite criticism, if not ridicule, to classify the terrible " Engines of devastating war in a group (115), in which is also classified (718), "Implements for Sporting and Hunting," such as fox traps, fish hooks, Ac.: I think it would be more in keeping with the "eternal niness of things" if so momentous a subject as war utensils, though coming under the head of "manufactures" in a general sense (and so do mice traps and penny whisties), ought to constitute a department perse, in which might properly be included "group" 86, and a separate building given to their exhibition hibition.

in this War Department the classification of amminition alone, particularly shells—dynamite shells in particular—would make it an object of absorbing in terest to the visitors from our country, Europe, and asia.

Geomas B. Junz, late U. S. Arthiery, Washington State Agent for the W. C. E.

## The Harlem Driveway.

From the Purf, Field, and Furm.

The objection made in some quarters that the proposed Harism River speedway is not long enough will not have much weight with men experienced in driving No horse can be driven at full speed a distance of two miles. You can pump the beat of them in a brush of half a mile. Mayor tilicey has kept the promise made before his election, and he is entitled to the thanks and support of all lovers of the light harmers torse.

Bandwiched. To HE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: With Bermuda on the Atlantic and Hawall on the Facific in the posses-sion of foreign powers, the United States would be eastwicked.

GEOGRAPHY IN THE SCHOOLS.

Chance for Students to Win the Medals of WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—The National Geo-

graphic Society, with a view of encouraging he study of geography in the public school of the United States, has instituted a system of certificates and medals for annual award in each State to such graduating pupil of a pub-lic high school as shall write the best original geographic essay on a subject to be selected by a committee of the society. The subject of the essay will pertain to the continent of North America and be comprehensive in scope and limited in length, so as to afford opportunity for originality of treatment. State Superintendents of Education are requested to cooperate with the society. The Geographic gold medal, lately established by the National Geographic So

established by the National Geographic So-ciety, will be awarded to the best essayist of the United States, while the second essayist will receive a certificate of honorable mon-tion. The best essayist of each State will re-ceive from the National Geographic Society a certificate of efficiency in geographic science. Schools intended to compete must notify the National Geographic Society before June 1, 1893.

Gen. A. W. Greely, Prof. T. C. Mendenhall, and Prof. W. B. Powell constitute the commit-tee charged with the selection of the subject and the sward of the prizes for 1893.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sire The following plan would seem to me to be little expensive and fussy and obviate 90 per cent.

1. Every national bank or Government treasury receiving a bank note which weight per cent, more than at the time of issue, or has lost 5 per cent. of its size, is stamped by the bank receiving it: "Payable only at place of issue." The note cannot be issued again by any national bank, but through the Clearing House has to be transferred like a check to the place of issue

2. There it is stamped, "Cancelled for renewal." and, say every six months (at a cost which I am informed is much less than one which I am informed is much less than one cent per note), new notes are issued to the bank or by the Government for those cancelled, the bank settling for the exchange.

3. Any note of \$20 or \$10 denomination eight years old when presented at a national bank, any \$5 note six years old, and \$2 and \$1 four years old, must be stamped and renewed in the manner described, but any note soiled or torn to the mentioned limit must bear the cancelling stamp, regardless of date of issue.

4. No national bank or Government official can refuse a note because subject to the renewal act.

5. Every bank examiner is obliged to cancel

can refuse a note because subject to the renowal act.

5. Every bank examiner is obliged to cancel notes coming under the description of such a renewal act, and any national bank in whose possession such notes are found unstamped for renewal shall be fined 5 cents for each note, one-half of the fine to go to the examiner.

6. The cancelling stamps must be heavy letters at least half an inch high, printed with good ink in two colors, say black for "Payable only at place of issue," and red for "Cancelled for renewal," to prevent circulation.

The cost of this system would be relatively light compared with the hygienic points gained. A bank with \$100,000 in circulation would have to pay for renewal about \$150 in five years, or only \$30 a year; or, counting the additional clerical work, say \$100 a year, or 1-10 per cent. of its capital, for the benefit of public health, endangered by its business to a much greater extent. Allow me to say, also, that the \$1 and \$2 notes ought to be very much reduced in frequency. It is much easier to carry \$5 in silver in our fashion, in the trouser pockets, than those nasty, crumpled \$1 and \$2 notes. I do not think that \$8 per cent. of the men object to carrying \$5 of silver; the other 2 per cent. (dudes and walking tailors forms) ought not to determine the course of the \$8 per cent.; for myself I must say I would rather carry \$5 in silver than in crumpled rags. The ladies! Bless them. This year a vague something, called "fashion," orders pockets; next year none. Shall the legislative man bow to the same must idiotic fetish and consider them at all? Let them show sense and have decent pockets. Nothing will accomplish that end so much as a metallic small currency, and in the end they will bless those who produced the "fashion" of pockets. Now a woman has to carry her whole outfit in a more or less flimsy pocket-book or satchel.

A Protest from St. Ignatius.

## A Protest from St. Ignatius.

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: The misstatements of facts in an article in to-day's issue of The Sun describing and commenting on the services at St. Ignatius Church are amusing to a churchman, but mis-leading to any reader no more enlightened than its

The first paragraph contains an error when it states that St. Ignatius "is getting so very 'high' of late that the doings there excite wonder in the church." St. Ignatius is not getting "so very high," for it has al wave been as "high." The service which is desc at such length bas been performed in like manner for the last eight or nine years, ever since Father Ritchie has been its rector. The "doings" do not excite " won der" in the church but admiration love and devot author's words "in the church" as referring to the members of the church or the people accustomed to

on the part of its members (the writer understands the author's words "in the church" as referring to the members of the church or the people accusiomed to worship there).

The fact that the membership of that church has grown from twelve to over 500 during Father Ritchie's pastorate does not seem to argue that the services excite "wonder," unless it is such wonder as developes into admiration and attachment. The members of that parish are devoted to its services, its workings through its guilds and societies, and to its rector, and they would not deviate one lota from its consistent and beautiful services.

A casual reader would infer from the article that the practices and customs at this church were unlawful, and were performed in no other church, whereas services have been celebrated in similar manner for fitteen or twenty years, ever since the days of St. Athana Similar services can be witnessed by the astounded author any Souday he may visit the Church of the Redeemer, St. Marr the Virgin's, Holy Cross, St. Edward the Martyr, or St. Martin's, Brooklyn.

The author's knowledge of eucharistic lights and seclesiastical law is most astonishing. Eucharistic lart the prominant Rpiscopal churcher used. In nearly all the prominant Rpiscopal churchers as the fitter and is universal in the Catholic Church, and is made on every infant's brow when it is baptised. The author's astonishment may be subded by learning that incense has been and is occasionally used at the Church of the Transfiguration, and that once a year vespers for the dead are sung i

## William Pena's Charter Can be Had.

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: I noticed in your paper of the above date, under the title "Staten sland's Exhibit," that the World's Fair Committee anything of the kind extant. It consists of the charter from King Charles II. to William Penn for the State of from King Charles II. to William Penn for the State of Pennsylvania and the Province of Delaware. It is dated 1682 and is so old that a portion of the outside is districtly seen away by time. Most of the writing is clearly legible and corresponds, verbatim, with the recorded by history. It came into my possession has direct lineal descendant of an old Delaware family of Quaker stock who came over with William Penn in 1982. I also have a lot of other paper curios from 125 to 175 years od. 17 Tryests odd

17 these people want to investigate and see these
papers, they can do so by addressing me at 75 Beckman
atreet, New York.

7. S. RICHARDSON.

7. S. RICHARDSON.

# Hurrah !

From the Spirit of the Times.

Mayor Gilrey's projected driveway on the west bank
of the Hariem will be an immensesource of pleasure to every man in Gotham who owns a good driver, and large numbers of wealthy men, who have given up driving because there was no road to drive on, will urchase fast horses and fast teams and resume their dd recreation.

## Foreign Notes of Real Interest,

Queen Victoria is going to send a number of paint-luge, "done with her own hands," to the Chicago Fair, some of which will come from the walls of the private dining room of Windsor Caste. The pictures will include a water color of her Indian Scoretary, one of her favorite dog, and some Balmoral sketches. She will also send a sachet which she worked, also "with her own hands," from a piece of craps. Princess Louise and Princess Beatrice will also send pictures, while Princess Christian will send some specimens of needle work, in this case "executed with the most consum-mate skill and ingenuity."

The fanatics among the temperance people of Eng-

iand are having a tiring time just now. A few weeks ago they celebrated with great acclaim the hundreth birthday of Dr. Wielobycki, Fresident of a testotal society in London, and held his case up as a mighty argument for testolatism. Since then the anti-fanatica nave professed some half dozen castenarians who have lives. And now it is told that Mr. Gindatone, octor generian wonder that he is, drinks champagne, port and claret with his meals, and, worst of all, it is discovered that Dr. Wielebycki both drank sicholic beyond that Dr. Wielebycki both drank sicholic beyong and help you to avoid all course and codes and below the constitution of the constitut

A NEW BARY AT EMB 800.

na Supplanted by the Arrival of Another Toung Elippopotamus,

There is a new hippopotamus in the menag-erie at Central Park. It arrived yesterday noon, and Fatima, the daughter of Caliph and Miss Murphy, who has been the petted baby of the family, enjoys that distinction no longer. An air of great mystery prevailed at the lion house in the Zoo all day yesterday. The doors were locked, and heavily chained on the inside. At long intervals a door would open a few inches and the tip of Keeper McGuinness's nose appear in the opening. Then, as he caught sight of the curious crowd that had collected to learn the cause of the unusual closing of the building, the door would slam to with a great rattling of chains, and no inducement could force it open again.

Finally vague rumors of what all the mystery was about began to circulate, and they were confirmed by Assistant Superintendent Burns, who hovered between his office in the arsenal and the lion bouse all the afternoon At exactly 12:15 the anxiously expected event took place. The new baby cried lustily when Keeper McGuinness found it. As yet, Miss Murphy is so jealous that the keepers have

Murphy is so jealous that the keepers have not been able to enter the cage, and no one knows whether Fatima has a little brother or a sister. Mr. Burns says that he has every reason to believe that the newcomer will live. It looks strong and healthy.

The insignificance of Fatima's position in consequence of the arrival of the new baby has been aggravated by relegating her to an obscure corner of the Zoo and boarding her un. Her quarters now are no larger than those occupied by the guinea pigs. When the new baby came the water was hastily let out of Fatima's tank and she was driven into the damp recentled. Then a high board partition was srected through the centre of the cage, and Fatima cannot even get a glimpse through the cracks of what is going on on the other side, which is occupied by Miss Murphy's and the little stranger. The only drop of comfort in Fatima's cup is that no one is allowed to enter the lion house and witness her disgrace. This is Miss Murphy's third presentation to the Park. On Now. 30, 1880, she became the mother of the first hippopotamus ever born in this city. The infant was sickly and died in a few days. On Oct. 14, 1891. Fatima was born. She is now a 1,200-pounder.

## MIKE AND PETE DEAD.

Two Deaths at the Monkey House in the

There were two deaths in the monkey house in the Central Park Zoo yesterday morning. When the house was opened Mike, the sick baboon, was found stretched lifeless in one corner of his cage. Mike has been in the menagerie for over a year and he was considered to be the most intelligent resident in the nonkey quarter. For the past few weeks he

has been steadily failing, and his death was expected at any time.

It was also discovered yesterday that death had visited another quarter of the monkey house. Pete the big ape, who has amused thousands of visitors to the menagerie, had succumbed to consumption during the night. The bodies of Pete and Mike will be stuffed and sent to the Museum of Natural History.

SLEPT WHILE HIS HAT BURNED.

Young Frank Standt's Danger Discovered by a Passing Policem Sergeant Joseph Saul of the Union Market colice station was passing the fruit stand on the southeast corner of Rivington and Attorney streets early yesterday morning when he saw smoke coming through the crevices. He pried open the door of the booth, and found a

boy saleep on the floor, with his head leaning against a stove. The young fellow's hat was against a stove. The young fellow's hat was burning, but he was fast asleep.

The Sergeant hauled him out, and the fresh air soon revived him. He said that he was Frank Staudt ha saloon keeper of 30% East Houston street. His father turned him into the street a few weeks ago, he said. Since then he had been trying to earn a living by blacking boots, and Bernard Forkhash allowed him to sleep in the fruit stand. He was locked up on a charge of vagrancy. up on a charge of vagrancy.

-The manufacture of Southern products in the South is on the increase. A single factory in North Carolina is now turning out 4,000,000 cigarettes daily. —At a Rich Hill, Mo., "social" the other Cay prises were offered to the young man who could thread a needle in the shortest time and to the woman who

could drive the straightest na!!.

-American ingenuity in holding the ribbons is extending very rapidly to the manufacture of ribbons as well. The product of American looms has increased, ac-cording to the figures just published, from \$5,028,100

in 1880 to \$17,081.447 in 1890. --Very close similarities in the lines of signatures are better evidence of forgery than variations, handwriting experts say. "When two signatures, purporting to have been written by the same person, are precisely alike," says one noted expert, "it is entirely safe to conclude that one of them is a forgery."

or can, write his signature twice exactly alike. -Zante, the scene of recent earthquakes, is known to the outside world chiefly by its exports of current the chief seat of this export, and these raisins were once called "Corinths." The name was gradually corrupted to currants, and most persons accept the fruit

in good faith for what the name seems to indicate -With the northward advance of this city and the growth of villages and cities in Westchester county, the Bronz, though still a beautiful stream, has become a menace to those who live along its banks. For many miles of its course it has few or no fish, and cautious persons who use the milk of cows that feed on the Bronx meadows and drink its polluted waters, guard against possible danger by scalding the milk. Only the most reckless persons drink the waters of the

fact that the Government of the United States is among the oldest of civilized Governments now exist-ing in the world, since most European countries have been to a considerable degree revolutionized since the first election of George Washington to the Presidency. The French republic, the present German empire, and the Italian kingdom, considered as political entities, are but youngsters beside the century-old American

republic -One of the rarest foreign types in New York is the French peasant, such as the Parisian comic papers love to depict in the persons of the man-of-war-sman and the raw recruit of the army. Rare also, but occasionally seen, is the respectable French old woman of the bourgeoise class, a patient, placid, quietly smiling creature, who has acquiesced in the loss of youth, but still retains a certain grace that charms. She is seen occasionally in the French quarter, perhaps as the wife of a restaurant keeper, or even of a cobbier. Nothing at all like her is to be found in any type of American feminine old age, and the aged Engilshwoman of the

upper or lower middle class has still less in common with her French sister of like years. —Joseph P. Comegys, the late Chief Justice of Delseware, whose death occurred only a few days after his delicately enforced resignation, was in outward aspect the ideal Judge. He was considerably over six feet tall, broad shouldered, and large boned. His head was tall, broad shouldered, and large boned. thickly thatched with snow white hair, and his great smooth-shaven face was mildly benevolent. His voice was a solemn bass that tent a special weight to what-ever he said from the bench. His manner was grava. ever he said from the center. His manner was grave, kindly, and penderously dignified. It was Judge Comegys who ones threatened to put the blue laws of Delaware into effect against Robert G. Ingersoll should the latter attempt to speak on religious subjects within the jurisdiction of the Court. The Chief Justice died at the age of 80. He had linked the present generation at the age of 80. He had linked the present generation with the interests and activities of an earlier one, for he was the son-in-law and friend of John M. Clayton, and had known all the distinguished Delawarians of

## When Greek Meets Grock.

From the Chrosgo Disputch. "It takes a woman to rebuke a woman." observed John Hilderbrau. "At the depot in Columbus the other day a fashionably dressed woman entered a car and, glancing about her inquired of a lady, with an air of the most supreme condescension. whether or not she had entered the smoking car.

"No. madam. You will find the smoker three cars ahead, replied the lady, quietly."

# The Editor Borrows Trouble.

The skirt-dancing girl will have to learn some new way to entertain people at afternoon tess. She can't dance the skirt dance with hoops on.

#### Proof at Hand. From Puck.

Hicks—I felt a tug at my hook, the line played out like a streak, and, after a terrible struggle. Handed this six-pounder. Airs. Hicks—But it is all dressed, and the head and tail are cut off. Hicks—Didn't I tell you it was a terrible struggle. struggle